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Food Drive Aims to Raise 6 Tons as We ‘Raise the Roof’

Drive done as part of build will benefit pantries throughout the area

Freeport, Ill., 8 September 2009 – It’s a time to make audacious goals, and Freeport Area Church Cooperative food pantry director Dean Wright has a goal of his own – gather 6 tons of food in just over a week to distribute to food pantries throughout northwest Illinois in conjunction with the *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* project.

“Building a house in 106 hours seemed impossible before this all began, but it can be done,” said Wright, who is spearheading the drive for six pantries in the area. “The community is coming together in a thousand different ways to make this happen, and we’re counting on that community spirit to help us make sure families across the region have enough to eat.”

Area pantries who will share in the collected bounty include the Freeport Area Church Cooperative, the United Churches of Galena Food Pantry, Stockton Community Food Pantry, the Lena Food Pantry, the Pearl City Outreach Food Pantry, and the German Valley Food Pantry

The *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* food drive begins now, with collection barrels for non-perishable items placed at these grocery stores throughout the area:

Sullivans-Stockton

Sullivans-Lena

Sullivans-Freeport

Cub Foods-Freeport

Sav A Lot-Freeport

Wal Mart-Freeport

“We’re also asking anyone who’s going out to the build site – whether they’re a volunteer or a spectator – to contribute at least one non-perishable food item,” Wright said. Collection barrels will be at the bus pickup area for spectators and volunteers (pickup locations will be announced on Wednesday 9 September).

Wright is also inviting businesses big and small across the area to hold their own food drives. “It’s a small way to be a part of this incredible event, and we’re hoping that companies challenge their employees to show their generosity by helping put food on tables across northwest Illinois,” Wright said. “They can bring their food to any of the collection sites, or if their food drive is really successful, we can make arrangements to get the food picked up.”

A downloadable sign for food collection containers for businesses conducting their own drives is available at www.extremehaskenconstruction.com. Businesses looking to arrange pick-up of their food donations at the end of their drives (or during the drives, if large amounts are collected and need to be picked up) may call M45 Marketing Services at 815-232-2121, ext. 221.

For more information on the *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* northwest Illinois build, visit www.extremehaskenconstruction.com. Follow events leading up to the build – and the build itself – via [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

About Hasken Construction

Hasken Construction LLC is dedicated to building distinctive, quality crafted custom homes and commercial buildings with unique designs, attention to detail, and tailored to customers’ dream specifications. When building, designing, remodeling and/or renovating, their custom work is based on the customer’s objectives. As a full-service builder, they direct the building process from the concept stage through final completion with the goal of delivering the highest quality product with prompt, courteous service. This includes but is not limited to site analysis, blueprint development, actual construction, landscaping, and warranty service.

The Haskens began remodeling existing homes in 1982. In 1985, Hasken Construction began building at Lake Carroll, Illinois and since that time they have become a major presence in northwest Illinois.

About ABC-TV’s *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*

“Extreme Makeover: Home Edition,” which has won back-to-back Emmy Awards as Best Reality Program (non-competitive), is entering its 7th season on ABC. The program is produced by

Endemol USA, a division of Endemol Holding. Anthony Dominici is the executive producer; and David Goldberg is the president of Endemol USA. The show airs on Sundays (7:00 p.m. CST), on the ABC Television Network.

MEDIA NOTE: *The family and location of the build will not be announced until Wednesday 9 September. Please do not ask questions of anyone associated with the project that could lead to identifying the family or the location, and do not speculate about this in media reports. If the family or location is identified in the media prior to the Door Knock event on Wednesday 9 September, ABC will cancel the project and this very deserving family will not receive their home. We are sure you would not want that on your conscience...*

Regular updates, news releases and other media materials about the build will be available through the above media contacts before, during and after the build.

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